

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/361,152	NAKAYAMA, SATOSHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	John M. Villecco	2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on June 25, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-26.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|---|--|

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1-26 are allowed.

1. Regarding *claim 1*, the primary reason for allowance is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a first color control circuit which controls the color adjusting circuit so that at least one of hue or color saturation is corrected responsive to the amount of flash generated light, independently of hue and/or color saturation in accordance with white balance.

2. As for *claim 4*, the primary reason for allowance is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a first color control circuit which controls the color adjusting circuit so that at least one of hue or color saturation is corrected responsive to the illuminance of the light, independently of hue and/or color saturation in accordance with white balance.

3. With regard to *claim 7*, the primary reason for indication of allowance is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a first and second color controlling circuit.

4. As for *claim 9*, the primary reason for indication of allowance is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a second hue controlling means for adjusting the hue based on whether or not a flash is used.

5. Regarding *claim 11*, the primary reason for allowance is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a color control circuit which controls the color adjusting circuit in accordance with an amount of light generated by the flash apparatus.

6. With regard to *claim 13*, the primary reason for allowance is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a first color control circuit which controls the color adjusting circuit such that when a flash apparatus is used, said color adjusting circuit corrects at least one of hue

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or color saturation responsive to the illuminance of the light from the subject using the flash apparatus, independently of hue and/or color saturation in accordance with white balance.

7. As for *claim 21*, the primary reason for allowance is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a color control circuit which changes between first data for color adjusting when the flash is not used and second data for color adjusting when the flash is used, wherein the color adjusting circuit corrects at least one of hue and color saturation in response to the color control circuit.

8. With regard to *claim 22*, the primary reason for allowance is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a color control circuit which controls one of hue and color saturation after the color adjusting circuit has adjusting the hue or color saturation in accordance with a second correction value, which is determined on the basis of an amount of light generated by the flash.

9. Regarding *claim 25*, the primary reason for allowance is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a color control circuit for changing the color adjusting circuit such that the color adjusting circuit corrects at least one of hue and color saturation in response to first data when a flash apparatus is used and in response to second data when the flash apparatus is not used, independently of hue and/or color saturation control in accordance with white balance.

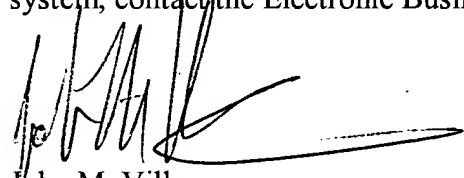
10. As for *claim 26*, the primary reason for allowance is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a color adjusting circuit which controls at least one of hue and color saturation in accordance with a first correction value obtained on the basis of color temperature and a second correction value obtained on a basis of the illuminance of the subject or the amount of light generated by the flash.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John M. Villecco whose telephone number is (571) 272-7318. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on (571) 272-7308. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



John M. Villecco
April 15, 2005



WENDY R. GARBER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600